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# *BRUNICK, ALVAREZ & BATTERSBY*

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 DONALD R. ALVAREZ  
 MARGUERITE P. BATTERSBY  
 STEVEN M. KENNEDY  
 LELAND P. MCELHANEY  
 RENE S. ABRAHAM  
 MARK POTTER  
 ELIZABETH G. MERKIN

PLEASE REFER TO

## FIRM RESUME

WILLIAM J. BRUNICK

Bill Brunick received his B.A. degree from San Jose State College in 1966 and his J.D. degree from Hastings College of Law, University of California in 1969. He also received a Masters of Law degree in taxation from Boston University in 1970. He was admitted to the State Bar of California in 1970 and has practiced in the San Bernardino and Redlands area since then.

Although Bill has a general civil practice, his major emphasis has been in water, municipal and labor law, taxation, business and corporate law, and probate and estate planning.

DONALD R. ALVAREZ

Donald Alvarez received his B.A. degree from the University of Redlands in 1975 and his J.D. degree from Loyola University in 1979. He is admitted to practice law in both State and Federal courts in California. Don joined Brunick, Alvarez & Battersby in 1981 and has practiced mainly in the areas of civil litigation, real estate, business and labor law.

Don is a member of the San Bernardino County Bar Association, the American Trial Lawyers Association, and the California Trial Lawyers Association in which he is an officer of the local chapter. Don is active in community affairs and is serving as a member of the Colton Unified School District School Board, and is the President of the Colton Rotary Club.

MARGUERITE P. BATTERSBY

Peg Battersby received her B.A. degree from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1970, her M.A. from the University of Toronto in 1973, and her J.D. degree from the University of Colorado in 1984. She was admitted to the California Bar in 1984, and joined Brunick, Alvarez & Battersby in March, 1985.

With emphasis in the areas of municipal, water, environmental, property tax and labor and employment law, Peg currently serves as City Attorney and General Redevelopment Counsel for the Cities of Highland, Yucaipa and Calimesa, as General Counsel to the Victor Valley Water District and Mission Springs Water District, and as Special Counsel to the Town of Truckee.

Peg is a member of the Los Angeles and San Bernardino County Bar Associations. She is a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the San Bernardino County Museum Association, the Board of Directors of Claremont Heritage, and is a member of the American Planning Association and the California Redevelopment Association.

STEVEN M. KENNEDY

Steve Kennedy received his B.A. degree from California State University, San Bernardino, in 1985 and his J.D. degree from the University of San Diego in 1988.

Steve joined Brunick, Alvarez & Battersby as a law clerk in June of 1987 and served in that capacity until being admitted to the California Bar in 1989. Mr. Kennedy became a partner of the law firm in the fall of 1996. Steve's primary emphasis is on public agency representation, civil litigation and environmental litigation. He presently serves as General Counsel to East Valley Water District, High Valleys Water District and Three Valleys Municipal Water District.

Steve is active in Kiwanis, Inns of Court and the San Bernardino Child Advocacy program.

LELAND P. McELHANEY

Leland ("Lee") McElhaney received his B.A. degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1963, and his J.D. degree from Boalt School of Law in 1966. From 1967-1969, Lee served as a Captain in the United States Army. In 1969, he joined the law firm of Cosgrove,

Cramer, Rindge & Barnum, an "av" rated firm in Los Angeles, and in 1975 became a partner in the Cosgrove firm. In 1987, Lee joined the Los Angeles office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, as its "Senior Attorney, Litigation." Lee joined Brunick, Alvarez & Battersby in October, 1991 and became a partner in the fall of 1996.

The primary focus of Lee's practice is general civil litigation. He has argued successfully before the California Supreme Court, and has been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. Lee is active in community affairs and, for 11 years, was a member of the Personnel Commission of the Rowland Unified School District.

RENE S. ABRAHAM

Rene Abraham received her B.A. degree from Loma Linda University (La Sierra University) in 1986 and her J.D. degree from Santa Clara University School of Law in 1995. Rene also studied German at the University of Regensburg, Germany from 1986-87. Rene was admitted to the California State Bar in 1995 and joined the firm in 1996.

For the five years prior to joining the firm, Rene worked as a health education specialist in San Bernardino County promoting the benefits of recycling, solid waste and hazardous waste management.

Rene's practice focuses primarily on public agency representation, business and corporate law, and probate.

MARK POTTER

Mark Potter received his B.A. degree in history and political science from the University of Southern California in 1991. He received his J.D. from Arizona State University College of the Law in 1994. While in law school, Mark held an externship with the Arizona Court of Appeals and clerked for a Phoenix law firm. He became a member of the Arizona State Bar in 1994 and worked as a Deputy Public Defender for Maricopa County for a year and a half. He was admitted to the California State Bar in 1997, and joined the firm in 1998.

He is a member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of California, the Lawyers Club of Los Angeles, and the Federal District Courts of Arizona and Central California.

Mark's practice has emphasized criminal law, constitutional law, estate planning and appellate practice.

ELIZABETH G. MERKIN

Elizabeth Merkin received her B.A. degree in 1974 from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, and her J.D. from Loyola University in 1980. She is admitted to practice before both the Federal and State Courts in California. Following law school, Elizabeth served as a law clerk in the Federal Court in Los Angeles for two years, and then joined the law firm of Irell & Manella in Century City, as a commercial litigator. She subsequently joined the law firm of Allred, Maroko and Goldberg in Los Angeles, where her practice was concentrated in civil rights cases. From 1989 to 1993, Elizabeth lived and pursued a private law practice in Lagos, Nigeria and Mexico City, Mexico. From 1993 until she joined Brunick, Alvarez & Battersby in 1998, she worked as a research attorney for the United States Bankruptcy Court, the San Bernardino Superior Court, and the Federal Court in Riverside.

Elizabeth's practice is in general civil litigation, with an emphasis in municipal, labor, and employment law. She currently serves as Assistant City Attorney for the Cities of Highland, Yucaipa and Calimesa.

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